

"Building Quality In Housing Through Partnership"

PROGRESS REPORT 2001-2002



"Building Quality in Housing and Inspiring the Human Spirit"



BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS







IDA CLARK



GLORIA L. CAKIWRIGHT











FROM THE CHAIRMAN

During the last decade the Newark Housing Authority (NHA) has made monumental strides, moving from a troubled housing authority to a high performing agency, according to the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development's report card.

The seven-member Board of Commissioners has emphasized the critical importance of partnerships in our efforts to improve the quality of life and the quality of housing for NHA residents.

As we proceed with the Stella Wright Homes Hope VI project



to rebuild that Central Ward community, the NHA is working closely with Mayor Sharpe James' Administration, the Board of Education and the other stakeholders to develop a planned community of safe, affordable housing with the requisite commercial, social and recreational amenities.

The tripartite relationship of the NHA, the City of Newark and the Board of Education collaborating on multiple aspects of the development plan can only auger well for the future of the Central Ward and the City.

The NHA has and will continue to play a pivotal role in the ongoing progress of Newark. We have built 1,250 units of new housing in neighborhoods throughout the city. These new NHA townhouses are situated in every ward, where they are enhancing neighborhoods and generating both personal and civic pride.

We have truly changed the face of public housing while simultaneously seeking to have a positive impact on the 11,500 families we provide affordable housing for through our lowincome and Section 8 programs.

It is a legacy of which we all can be proud.

Burnerford Sith

Zinnerford Smith Chairman



FROM THE DIRECTOR



When public housing in Newark was initially developed under the Federal Housing Act of 1937, nearly 3,000 garden apartment and townhouse unifs were built at eight sites across the city from 1940 – 1952. These small, low-density apartments were built at 37 units (99 people) per acre to replace deteriorated housing of approximately the same density.

By 1952 the first elevator serviced public housing sites — Kretchmer Homes and Walsh Homes — were completed. They were

mixtures of seven- and eight-story buildings and three-story walkups. The housing stock increased by 50 percent but the density increased to 165 people per acre, 67 percent higher than those previously constructed.

During the nest 12 years (1952 – 1963) four more high-rise structures were built, with Scudder Homes topping the list at a whopping 380 people per acre, a 284 percent increase over the housing it replaced. Scudder, Hayes and Stella Wright Homes were constructed within a few blocks of each other in the Central Ward. Columbus Homes was a mile to the north. Apartment and room sizes were well below currently acceptable standards. Bedrooms designed to accommodate two people were only large enough for a single bed. Doorless bedroom closets were situated in hallways.

The massive buildings were stark and institutional and by 1963 accounted for 70 percent of the city's public housing units.

As a number of socioeconomic issues and political machinations impacted on public housing in subsequent years, it took bold leadership to chart a new path to give new hope and opportunity to residents.

Mayor Sharpe James provided the vision, guidance and support that has enabled the NHA to change the face and scope of public housing in the last deade. The NHA was the vanguard of efforts to convince federal officials that it was too costly to try and maintain nonviable, high-ties, high-density buildings, and the best remedy for the long-term viability of public housing was to demolish them and build scattered-site townhouse.

Today the NHA's housing picture is markedly different than it was when 380 people were crammed into one acre.

Our density per acre is only 30 people, yet we are housing 11,500 or 30 percent more





people than a decade ago. Our occupancy rate has been as high as 97 percent, which is among the top five on average of larger public housing authorities.

In the words of Mayor James, "People used to fight to get out of public housing; now they're fighting to get in." With the on-line delivery of 345 new townhouse units in 2001, nearly one per day, the NHA has greatly improved the quality of its housing stock, which contributes to a better quality of life for NHA residents.

The NHA has built over 1,250 of these units and plans to build one apartment per day on average for the next four years.

We think the Mayor's words speak volumes for the extraordinary transformation of the NHA, and I would like to thank the Board of Commissioners for its astute guidance and oversight of NHA politic and operations.

Moreover, I want to thank all employees for effectively doing their respective jobs to help the agency fulfill its obligation to our residents.

And I particularly want to express my personal gratitude to our Deputy Executive Director, Jimmy Miller, whose hard work and dedication make the difficult day-to-day operations of the NHA function more smoothly and effectively.

We are now positioned to forge ahead and "continue the progress" that was envisioned by Mayor James and the NHA Board of Commissioners for the city of Newark.

Robert Graham
Executive Director



WYNONA LIPMAN GARDENS



Newark Housing Authority Commissioner Fran Adubato (second from right), cuts the ribbon dedicating the new 300-townhouse unit "Wynona Lipman Gardens" on the former Christopher Columbus Homes Site. 7th Avenue and Martin Luther King Boulevard, Ms. De Geneste is the niece of the late Senator Lipman who was the first African-American female to be elected to the upper house of legislature. Joining the mayor are (from left) Councilman Luis Quintana, NHA Commissioner Norma Gonzalez, Business Administrator Harold Lucas, Brenda Edmonson, a cousin of Senator Lipman, NHA Commissioner Lynell Robinson, NHA Commissioner and City Council President Donald Bradley, NHA Executive Director Robert Graham, and Housing and Urban Development State Director Diane Johnson. With the addition of the Lipman Gardens complex, the NHA will have constructed 1,250 new townhouses throughout the city's five wards over the past several years.











HOPE VI

When the federal government began its aggressive implementation of demolishing nonviable public housing under the Hope VI program, the NHA led the way in the redesign of public housing.

Originally named the Urban Revitalization Demonstration program, Hope VI evolved into a large-scale initiative to provide local housing authorities with funds and flexi-



bility to reshape public housing neighborhoods and to build lives through education and skills training, job placement and development and other supportive services.

Townhouses and garden-style apartments have replaced nonviable family high-rises, urban street grids are being reconfigured and defensible space strategies are enhancing safety in the community.

The NHA's initial Hope VI grant was targeted for the rebuilding of the 630-unit Walsh Homes complex. The site was renamed Riverside Villa at a ribbon-cutting ceremony for the first 198 units of a proposed 416 that will complete the new complex.

The next jewel in the NHA's Hope VI program is the Stella Wright Homes development that is dedicated to rebuilding this Central Ward neighborhood. This comprehensive redevelopment plan is a public/private community revitalization effort that embraces the neighborhood and includes new mixed-income rental and home ownership housing, new streets and utilities, new and improved community centers and increased economic development within the larger Central Ward area.

The plan includes physical and social linkages to the public schools (as well as a new Central High School), universities, neighborhood churches and other community enterprises.

Approximately 755 units of new housing will be constructed, with 471 dedicated for rental and 284 for home ownership. More than 300 units will be dedicated exclusively for public housing.



RESIDENTIAL AFFORDABLE HOUSING

As the NHA has reconfigured its housing inventory within the past decade, i.e. replacing obsolete, nonviable, high-rise buildings with efficient townhouse dwellings, it still has recognized that there is a continuing need for affordable housing in multi-faceted forms.

The NHA meets the need by currently providing nearly 7,500 affordable public housing units and another 4,200 Section 8 vouchers, enabling qualified applicants to benefit from federal affordable housing programs. These 11,500 families currently being served by the NHA represent a 30 percent increase from 1999, and the new townshouses have a median density of only 21 units per ace.

The NHA's Section 8 Department administers more than 5,000 vouchers, and its utilization rate is at an all-time high. Landiord participation in the Section 8 program is more than double what it was a decade ago and 153 percent higher than in 1998, with over 1,700 landiords in the program. The number of occupied/leased apartments is 271 percent greater than at 1s inception in 1989, which means more than 4,200 families are using vouchers for affordable housing.

Family Self Sufficiency (FSS)

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The NIIA's award-winning ESS program provides the necessary tools to help residents improve their standard of living. It specifically assists families that have Section 8 vouchers and curfificates achieve economic independence and self-sufficiency through educational, social and economic development and job readiness training, Although participation in the program is voluntary, the head-chouseholds are required to sign a five-year contract outlining their short-and long-term goals. Toward this end, the FSS staff conducts assessments and provides, in concert with local agencies and community organizations, a



NHA Commissioners Gloria Cartwright and Lynell Robinson joined the Section 8 staff for the graduation program at Newark Public Library's Centennial Room.

variety of supportive services, including household budgeting and counseling and treatment programs for substance abuse.

The FSS program has received a "Best Practices" award from the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development for its highly successful efforts. Currently serving 85 families, the FSS program held its third graduation ceremony in 2001 to highlight the achievements of 12 families enrolled in the program. Of the 12 families, seven

Housing Authority of the City of Newark Housing Production (As of 1st QTR 2002)





Carmen Valenti, New Jersey director of public housing, U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development, presents escrow check to Sharon Gillespie following her graduation from the Family Self Sufficiency Program.

have built sizable escrow accounts and are in process of becoming homeowners. The program has also enabled families to locate permanent housing, repair their credit, become drug-free and com-

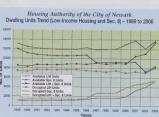
plete educational programs.

Welfare-to-Work

The NHA's Welfare-to-Work Program represents another effort to address the needs of the community.

Established in January 2000, the program is administered by five staff members who help clients take the necessary steps within the state-mandated time period that will ultimately lead to removing them from government assistance.

The staff also monitors clients' performance to ensure they are meeting federal guidelines for the Section 8 and the Welfarse-to-Work programs. To enhance their ability to meet projected goals, the staff also operates a job Literacy and Placement Center that focuses on resume writing and finding employment. Most recently, 53 participants graduated from the Welfarse-to-Work Program at a special ceremony that underscored the significance of the program's collaboration with The City of Newark, the New Jersey Department of Labor. New Jersey Network/Public Broadcasting System, Prudential and First Union Bonk.



PROPERTY MANAGEMENT





The Drivision of Property Management is responsible for the day-to-day operation of 7,400 housing units. More than 1,500 residents were recertified last year and 1,200 apartments were refurbished. The Department maintained an occupancy rate of 97 percent.

Central Maintenance Division

In baseball the "Rolaids Relief Award" is the most coveted among the highly paid relief pitchers or closers in the sport

At the NHA, the Rolaids Award would metaphorically go to the Central Maintenance Division for its valuable relief work in the face of emergencies and its timely resolution of maintenance problems throughout the agency

The CMD completed several major projects which served to improve the viability of the NHA s housing stock and enhance the safety and welfare of NHA residents.

From projects ranging from infrastructure

improvements and apartment renovations to quality of life enhancements, the Division's systems revitalization efforts undergird the daily operations of the agency

The following work items highlight some of the division's myriad recent activities

- Installed approximately 400 security cameras at all
- ◆ Installed 150 bullet-proof exterior lights at Baxter Terrace and Seth Boyden Terrace
- · Replaced all entrance .ights at Hyatt Court

oldorly sites

- ♦ Boarded up 100 apartments at Stella Wright
- Cleaned Buildings 4, 5, 6 and 7 at Stella Wright Homes
- ◆ Rehabilitated 10 fire damaged townhouses, three were completed in a one-month period
- Repaired major underground steam leak at Stella Wright Homes

- Replaced sidewalks at Baxter Terrace, Hyatt Court, Kretchmer Elderly, Seth Boyden Elderly, Baxter Elderly and Stephen Crane E.derly
- Replaced Mail Box Pads at townhouse sites.
 NJ 2 36 and NJ 2-37
- ◆ Installed Wrought Iron Fence at townhouse complexes at NJ 2-43 and NJ 2-46
 ◆ Completed roof repairs at Baxter Terrace and at
- townhouse sites NJ 2-41 and NJ 2-42
- · Replaced missing eves at Felix Fuld Court
- Replaced entire garage roof at Stephen Crane Village
- Replaced siding at townhouse sites NJ 2 27, 2 21 and NJ 2-42
- ◆ Constructed Centra. Mail rooms at Bradley Court
- ♦ Re-paved five parking lots at Hyatt Court
- Re-paved eight parking lots at Scattered Sites
 NJ 2 27
- Installed steel fence with brick posts at Stephen Crane Elderly.

- · Re-paved sitting area at Baxter Elderly
- Repaired underground sewer problems and installed additional manholes at Hvatt Court
- ◆ Painted approx.mately 136 ATO units
- ◆ Constructed Dumpster enclosure at Terrell Homes.
- Relocated and constructed ten new dumpster enclosures at NI 2-27
- ◆ Reconfigured and constructed new dumpster enclosures at Bradley Court, NJ 2-14
- Repaired and replaced chain link and wrought iron fencing at various townhouse comp.exes.

As the NIIA has more recently focused on a transition to site based maintenance in order to improve efficiency, the Central Maintenance and the site based crews responded to more than %,000 work orders in the past year Moreover, the Division's solided trades teams renovated and or refurbished over 1,200 apartments in the same span of time







OCCUPANCY DEPARTMENT



At the epicenter of the multi-faceted operations of the NHA is the Occupancy Department, which has the critical responsibility of maintaining the files of, and renting units to 5.961 citents

During 2001, the NHA opened ist family watting list for the first time since 1993, albeit the availability of new townhouses was limited to one and two bedrooms. The Department received more than 3,600 new applications during the year, of which 1,195 qualified and were accepted as applicants, with another 673 rentstated to the watting list.

Nearly 1,000 units were leased and over 2,600 criminal record checks were submitted and processed. The Department also maintains 2,000 inactive resident files. Some of the 2,900 applicants who waited patiently to be processed by Occupancy Department staff as the NHA opened is waiting list for one and two-bedroom townhouses.

Occupancy Department staff member Linda Brodie (right, handles intake application for a prospective resident



BOILER OPERATIONS

For the sixth consecutive winter, the NHA can proud vistate that its residents suffered no significant heating failures.

The Boiler Operations Division's pro-active approach to preventive maintenance prior to the henting season has enabled the group to once again fulfill, its credo of "never leaving a resident without heat".

As part of its responsibilities, the division completed a number of major heat and not water projects in the past year.

For examps, Sath restable bodiers are no naddings at three sites and matasatis repased 28 bodiers and 240 hot water trails at twelve 8 tos. They, ostable objectee hot water storage tanks, in addition to set Lochmar not water and stotaling 8.75 million British Therma, Units (BFL). Additionally the Division installed twenty none feed water and twenty four samp pumps along with a number of condensite receivers and steam nesses.

The unit also converted heating systems in loopings of two elderly high rise buildings, rebuilt the bour room to provide neat for a day care center and installed a new oil tank at one of the townhouse sites.

ADM. NISTRATION DEPARTMENT

In order for the NHA to effectively rultill its property management responsibilities, it is importative that the Department of Administration provide the requisite logistical support

The Department, which covers warehouse operations and inventory control, purchasing office equipment and suppaies, the 1 rmt 5flop and Motor Pool procures operating supplies and materias for the entire agency. Warehouse Operations is a critical component as illustrated to the more than 25000 line items of appliances, suppaies, materials and office equipment that was shipped to NHA readent complexes and offices last year.

TRAINING PROGRAMS

In its continuing efforts to assist NHA residents and staff employees in elevating their job skills, the authority has increased its training programs

An even dozen NHA residents are currently enrolled in the skilled trades apprentice program for carpenters, painters and ejectricians.

More than 120 employees are now enrolled in the repairer program, enabling them to enhance their learning capacity and allowing the agency to diversify its work force.

Further, new construction con-



Frances Clark and Dana Smith at the Information Technology (IT) lockoff training program.

tracts require contractors/developers to include an apprenticeship component, which fulfills the Section 3 federal requirement for local hiring

A comprehensive employee training program to enhance staff's computer and technological skills has been implemented to improve the agency's management processes and departmental efficiency.



Electrician Apprentice Shynell Anthony works with voteran electrical instructor James "Murad" Maione to learn the skills of the trade





FAM LY & COMMUNITY SERVICES

The diverse responsibilities of the NHA not only include providing safe and decent housing and fostering opportunities for self-sufficiency for residents, but also giving residents access to social and educational programs

The Family and Community Services Department offers a wide range of programs for senior and adult resi dents, as well as a number of initiatives to serve NHA youth.

Last summer, for example, the NHA made it possible for hundreds of young people to attend the Boys and

Girls Clubs' eight-week summer day camp program and Star Lake's two-week overnight camp

Additionally the youth participated in sports, cultural, educational and other recreational programs, which included camping trips, golf, swimming, basketball, baseball, track and martial

The NHA Boxing Program, through its sponsorship of the Dukers Athletic Club, has produced champions and runners-up in the New Jersey



Young residents who participated in the city's Cultural Arts Festival



Continues see that and Gloria Carlwingh, with Executive Dress.

Robert Graham and NHA youngsters who participated in the Summer

Golf Program

Golden Gloves Tournament, in addition to showcasing some of the region's best young boxers

NHA recreational aides at 10 family sites service the after-school programs for more than 500 youngsters, while several hundred more participate in on-site computerized library after-school programs at several sites.

Nearly 30,000 senior residents from all sites were transported to shopping sites as part of the Nutritional Shopping Program, while another 1,100 opted to attend the special trips to the local movie theater.

NHA staff took over 300 seniors on several chartered deep sea fishing excursions, and 200 more attended week-long camping trips

The Department also coordinates the on site med.cal cinucs at four elderly complexes and provides service coordinators and social workers and case management at 11 elderly sites. These supportive service efforts help to ensure independent living for our elderly residents.

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MODERNIZATION DEPARTMENT

Maintaining the long-term viability of the NHA's housing stock by implementing the major infracture repairs and replacement where required is the forte of the Modernization (MOD) Department

The Department is responsible for obligating the capital fund dollars provided by HUD for the continuing maintenance and re-grading of the agency's housing units

A snapshot of recent projects completed by the MOD Department encompasses 14 different housing complexes and the following host of activities

- Completed roof replacement of all four buildings and the installation of new playground equipment at Pennington Court
- ◆ Total replacement of the entire hot water heating system in all 12 buildings at Hyatt Court and similarly in 11 buildings at Terrell Homes Condensate and return systems were also replaced at these sites.
- Replacement of the central heating system with individual boilers in each of the ten buildings at

Bradley Court, to include new hot water and condensate systems Additionally new roofs were completed on all the buildings, the underground storm and sewer systems were upgraded and a new perimeter fence was installed around the entire site. The Bradley Court II Complex received all new exterior sixing and new perimeter fencious.

- Emergency lighting systems as well as new entry doors and common area windows were installed at Kretchmer and Seth Boyden Elderly sites, and Fourshee Towers.
- New electrical feeds were completed to the Felix Fuld low-rise complex and roofs were replaced with new ones on each of the eight buildings.
- Rear-yard fencing was constructed at each of the 344 units at Stephen Crane Village, while a master renovation study for Baxter Terrace was begun
- Managed logistics for the 12th implosion of highrise buildings with its demolition preparation of the seven buildings at Stella Wright Homes, the last of the NHA family high-rise complexes to dot





NHA NIHE COMMUNIY



AFRICAN-AMERICAN HERITAGE PARADE & FESTIVAL

Mayor Sharpe James was the Grand Marshal at the African American Hentace Parade

Commissioner Glone Carlwright and Executive Director Robert Granam smite as the NHA's parade contingent passes the reviewing stand



The NHA's Security Department's Honor





NHA's Seventh Avenue Jazz Drilt Team



"FROM THE MAYOR'S DESK"

The development of new public housing affordable housing and homeownership opportunities were among the topics when Mayor Sharpe James hosted MHA Executive Director Abord Graham and Mewark homeowners Karen Felder (reft) and Lourdes Diaz or Cablewision's "From the Mayor's Desk".

PUERTO RICAN DAY PARADE



Newark native and hero, Harry Ramos, a victim of 9/11 terronsm, pictured in front of City Hati where he was celebrated at the Puerto Rican Day Parade along Broad Street.





NHA float in the Puerto Rican Day Parade



PUBLIC EMPLOYEE CHARITABLE CAMPAIGN





NHA employees at the kickoff reception which raised nearly \$20,000 for the Public Employee Charitable Campaign

HONORARY EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR FOR A DAY

Bessie MacDonald congratutates Louis Benyard on his special day





2001 NHA Honorary Executive Director chats with former Councilman and program founder George Branch

MOTHER/DAUGHTER



Chanice Johnson, the reigning Ms. Housing Authority is shown with their mother (right) grandmother (left), and great grandmother at the Mother/Daughter Lunchson.



Mayor Sharpe James greets guests at the Ms. Housing Authority Mother/Dauchter Lunchson



Ms. Housing Authority Pageant

Ms Housing Authority 2001 Pageant winner Chanice Johnson (center, Kim Miller (right) and Lena Spence, first and second onners up respectively





NHA SCHOLARSHIP PROGRAM

Pictured are NHA residents who participated in the NHA's Scholarship Program that assists college bound seniors





NHA VOLUNTEERS APPRECIATION LUNCHEON

NHA Execlutive Director Robert Graham thanks 175 residents for their volunteer work in vanous site-based programs





ADOPT-A-CHILD PROGRAM

Several youngsters are all smiles as they receive Christmas gifts from NHA employees as part of the Adopt-A-Child Program. More than 500 children served by the NHA were the recipients of Christmas "cheer" from NHA employees.







NHA STABILIZATION VAN

NHA Security Department personnel interact with students and staff at Newark's Bruce Street School for the Deaf





Children enjoy themselves at the Kretchmer Hornes summer vacation Bible School program, sponsored by the NHA/AME Health Awareness Program

VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL







A VISIT FROM THE NETHERLANDS

NHA Executive Director Robort Graham greets a member of the Netherlands 40-person delegation, which visited the NHA to get an "up close and personal" look at the agency's operations for possible repication in their own country







HOUSING AJTHOR TY OF THE CITY OF NEWARK NEWARK, NEW LERSEY COMB NED BALANCE SHEETS AS OF MARCH 31, 2001 AND MARCH 31, 2000

ASSETS	MARCH 31, 2001	MARCH 31, 2000
Current Assets		
Cash	\$11,296,561	\$10,467,302
Accounts Receivable		
HUD	8,615,938	6,770,416
Tenants	351,156	318,797
Other	2,631,809	2,226,712
Notes Receivable—Current	99,115	55,377
Investments	63,690,343	57,498,556
Inventory	1,901,778	1,742,164
Prepaid Expenses	16,917	23,832
Total Current Assets	88,603,617	79,103,156
Non-Current Assets		
Long Term Notes Receivable	1,077,866	1,156,219
Property, Equ.pment and Improvements	s 259,835,566	245,814,001
Total Non-Current Assets	260,913,432	246,970,220
Total Assets	\$349,517,049	\$326,073,376
LIABILITIES AND EQUITY		
Accounts Payable	\$19,043,937	\$15,419,267
Accrued Expenses	10.712.370	9,912,920
Deferred Revenue	2,839,993	1,993,827
Total Liabilities	32,596,300	27,326,014
Equity	316,920,749	298,747,362
Total Liabilities and Equity	\$349,517,049	\$326.073.376





Newark Housing Authority 57 Sussex Avenue

57 Sussex Avenue Newark, New Jersey 07103-3992 Telephone (973) 430-2430 Fax (973) 642-1242





OF THE CITY OF NEWARK

FACT SHEET

NEW CONSTRUCTION: NJ2-48

- DEVELOPMENT TYPE: Townhouse
- DEVELOPMENT CONFIGURATION: 96 townhouse units situated on four scattered-site complexes, a community (management/maintenance) building and storage facility.
- UNIT DISTRIBUTION: Twenty (20) one-bedrooms, 38 two-bedrooms and 38 three-bedrooms.
- ARCHITECTURAL HIGHLIGHTS: Colonial-style townhouses. Meets five-star energy specifications (highest efficiency).
- . DEVELOPER: Century 21 Construction, Clifton, N.J.
- . DEVELOPMENT COST: \$14 million.

"Building Quality In Housing and Inspiring The Human Spirit"



COMMISSIONERS

IOA CLARK

PRESS RELEASE

CLORIA CARTWRIGHT

THEASURER

DONALD BRADLEY
MORMA GONZALEZ
LYNELL ROBINSON

Contact: Harry A. R

Harry A. Robinson (973) 430-2212 Yvonne Reynolds (973) 430-2217

NHA REGINS CONSTRUCTION OF 96 NEW TOWNHOUSES

NEWARK, May 9, 2002 - The Newark Housing Authority, which has constructed 1,250 new housing units during the tenure of Mayor Sharpe James and Council President Donald Bradley, is adding another 96 units to its impressive inventory of quality, affordable housing.

In a ceremony marking the construction start of 96 townhouses in the South Ward, NHA Executive Director Robert Graham hosted federal, state and local representatives on Hunterdon and West Runyon Streets, next to the South District Police Precinct.

"This construction start is another milestone in the NHA's ongoing program to purpove public housing in Newark and contribute to the city's neighborhood growth," Graham stated. "These 96 new units will provide more families with the opportunity to enhance their quality of life and add to the growing pride that residents have in our new public housing."

Graham further noted that the new development, known as NJ2-48, will bring the total number of new housing units to 1,345 and move the NHA closer to its goal of building nearly 3,000 new townhouse units.

The site is bounded by Hunterdon Street (west), Peshine Avenue (east), Clinton Avenue (north) and West Runyon Street (south).

Graham said that Century 21 Construction Corp. of Clifton, NJ is the developer of the \$14 million project.

STAR-LEDGER
NEWARK, NJ
MONDAY 407,592
FEB 25 2002

New Jersey Cupping Service

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OPINION ...

EDITORIALS

Making homes in Newark

ou cannot rebuild a city just by building houses. You have to build neighborhoods.

And it looks as if the Newark Housing Authority and the federal agencies behind an ambitious new Central Ward development have learned that lesson.

The project is stated for an area off Markha Luker, King Jr. Boukeruri, a Bill or of the city that epitomets but burning necessarily subject to the plant. It is where unlessable public horsing towers once concentrated a large product in a few day bullet. There were few readerstal assembly product predicting for the distance that happened. Critic because rempart, at if the public plant plant managespalls and had to be abundanced. Note have a ready been imploded. The rest will come down shortly to make way for what could be a model for them, restorables.

The \$200 million project will build a neighborhood around 755 units of low-rise housing, including 267 units for sale to people with varying incomes. A consortium of federal and private mortgage lenders is being organized to ease the way for prospective huyers. We salute that effort because Newark has one of the lowest rates of homeownestip in the country.

We agree with the housing advocates who say the Housing Authority must build affordable housing for low-housen people and must build replacment untils for those lost when the public bossing towers were closed. And this project will help, but if Newark is to have a future, it must attract and keep residents all along the economics scale. And it must increase the number of residents who are firmly rooted in their neighborhoods because they own their houses.

A new school, police facilities and several parks are also part of the plan. Good. The best way to plan new services is in concert with any new residential development that will have an effect on those services.

Finally, this project is promising to do something about that foon of Newardipartitise, the Krueger-Scott mansion. The historic old house has eaten up more than 85 million and is still an unususlet wered. The Housing Authority says a private developer will turn the house into a jazz chib and restautant as one of the enhancements planned for the new neighborhood.

We know that bad things sometimes happen to good ideas in Newark, But taken as a whole, which is the way urban neighborhoods should be built, this looks like a good plan.



HOUSING AUTHORITY OF THE CITY OF NEWAR 500 Broad Street Newark, New Jersey 07102